categories of works/jobs to contractors through Job/Service contracts with complete responsibilities for performance of either specialized services or low-tech jobs and has not awarded any contract for performance of jobs prohibited by the Ministry of Labour.

IPI pipeline deal

809. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's stand now on the India-Pakistan-Iran pipeline deal in the current scenario, post 26/11 attack;

(b) whether the deal includes insurance against disruption of gas supplies;

(c) if so, the details thereof and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Energy security is an important policy objective of the Government. Government remains committed to the IPI gas pipeline and other projects, which are financially viable and in which security of supply is assured. Government is seeking long-term viability of the Project on the basis of equal sharing of risks and benefits of the Project.

(b) Agreements relating to the Project have not yet been finalized. While signing the agreements, it will be ensured that the agreements have adequate safeguard against disruption of gas supply.

(c) and (d) Do not arise, in view of (b) above.

LPG supply in Uttarakhand

†810. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of LPG being supplied in Uttarakhand every year by Government; and

(b) the total number of LPG connections at present in the country and the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that they have supplied 130 Thousand Metric Tonnes (TMT), 136 TMT and 104 TMT of domestic LPG in the State of Uttarakhand during the year 2006-07, 2007-08 and April, 2008 to December, 2008 respectively.

(b) As on 01.01.2009, OMCs are serving 1047.726 lakh LPG customers in the country. The State-wise details are given in the Statement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

State-wise number of LPG connections as on 01.01.2009

Figs. (in lakhs)

State/UT	(Number of LPG Connections)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	114.272
Andaman & Nicobar	0.550
Arunachal Pradesh	1.278
Assam	19.816
Bihar	25.281
Chandigarh	3.301
Chhattisgarh	11.035
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.366
Daman and Diu	0.448
Delhi	42.174
Goa	4.218
Gujarat	54.241
Haryana	33.787
Himachal Pradesh	12.899
Jammu & Kashmir	14.179
Jharkhand	11.597
Karnataka	59.831
Kerala	56.002
Lakshadweep	0.034
Madhay Pradesh	43.252
Maharashtra	137.933
Manipur	2.211
Meghalaya	1.123
Mizoram	1.919
Nagaland	1.440
Orissa	15.140
Puducherry	2.611
Punjab	48.739

1	2
Rajasthan	43.161
Sikkim	1.183
Tamil Nadu	105.028
Tripura	2.607
Uttar Pradesh	106.810
Uttarakhand	15.500
West Bengal	53.760
All India	1047.726

Impact of strike

811. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the officers of the Oil companies went on strike in January, 09 thus paralyzing life in the country by blocking oil and gas supplies;

(b) whether it is also a (fact that the work at the oil refineries was seriously affected; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons that Government did not take any action for a number of days in ensuring sufficient supplies of oil etc. and dealing with the striking officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. A section of Officers of Central Public Sector Oil Companies had gone on strike from 7th to 9th January, 2009 in regard to certain issues of pay revision.

(b) Yes, Sir. Work at some of the Oil Refineries was affected by the strike.

(c) During the strike period stock and supply position of petroleum products were constantly monitored to ensure adequate availability of the same throughout the country.

Effect of the fall in the price of international crude

812. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total import of crude into the country after the steep fall in their prices both in quantity and value in foreign exchange;

(b) the overall impact on the performance of the public sector oil companies due to the steep fall in prices;

(c) whether Government plans to stockpile crude like China which has made huge infrastructure to stock crude which is costing lower in the markets;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and